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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/727,255

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John Landau

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Kaplan Gilman & Pergament LLP
1480 Route 9 North
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

EXAMINER

AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

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09/01/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/727,255	Applicant(s) LANDAU, JOHN	
	Examiner RASHA S. AL AUBAIDI	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 and 26-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 and 26-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This in response to amendment filed 06/16/2010. No claims have been added. Claims 23-25 have been canceled. Claim 15 has been amended. Claims 1-22 and 26-30 are still pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3, 8, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei (US PAT # 5,406,620) in view of Alston et al. (US PAT # 7,376,126).

Regarding claim 1, Pei teaches a system is disclosed for allocating international transit calls among a plurality of carriers in a terminating country in accordance with **routing information that has been previously specified** (the claimed routing information reads on the stored indicia, as recited in claim 1). Upon receipt of an international transit call, an **originating gateway** switch can **access** (this can read on the claimed feature of comparing said indicia to data associated with incoming call) **the**

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appropriate carrier treatment (reads on the stored indicia) (see abstract of the invention, col. 2, lines 15-18, lines 31-48, col. 3, lines 41-52).

Pei does not specifically teach that the originating gateway comprising more than one port and each port is being different from each other.

However, the Examiner now introduces Alston which teaches in one embodiment that the broadband gateway has individual ports assigned to each of a plurality of messaging devices (see col. 10, lines 5-7). Alston also teaches that each one of those port is unique (see col. 3, lines 17-18).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of having multiple ports assigned to a gateway and each port is different than the other, as taught by Alston, into the Pei teachings in order to expand and increase system's diversity.

Claims 8, 15-16, 18, 20 and 26 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. The claimed feature of "port" as recited in claim 16 is inherent in the system and method of Pei. For the claimed feature of "AAA" see Alston (col. 6, lines 30-34). For claim 15, the claimed feature of performing accounting for incoming calls by a third entity located remotely from the gateway may read on the message application server 50 which contains AAA server (see col. 6, lines 30-34).

For claims 3 and 10, see col. 3, lines 53-65.

For claims 27-30, the limitations of how to handle the arrival of the incoming call such as accepting or denying the call are old and well known features in the art of telephony. Also, handling calls based on certain characteristics factors is an obvious limitation. All these characteristics can be pre-defined by the user or the system in order to set how the incoming call can be handled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 11-14, 17, 19, 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pei (US PAT # 5,406,620) in view Alston further in view of Elliott et al. (Pub. No.: 2008/0025295).

Regarding claims 2, 9 and 19, the combination of Pei and Alston does not specifically teach the use of an "IVR" as recited in claim's language.

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However, in a voice over data telecommunication s network architecture Elliott teaches the use of Network IVR 654 is an IVR that connects to data network 112. Network IVR 654 can communicate with soft switch 204 via the IPDC protocol [0399].

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of an IVR, as taught by Elliott, into the combination of Pei and Alston in order to achieve simple and fast way of collecting and gathering information.

Regarding claims 4 and 11, Pei does not specifically teach that the claimed indicia comprise a PIN. However, one of ordinary skill in the art may choose the indicia to be any type of information.

Regarding claims 5 and 12, for the claimed feature of having “originating gateway comprises more than one port ...etc”, the Examiner believes that this limitation is obvious and it is considered a design choice. One of ordinary skill in the art may choose to assign any number of ports base on the need and desire.

For claims 6 and 13, see [0463].

For claims 7 and 14, Pei teaches that assigning and identifying carrier identifying indicia is done automatically. However, having a function performed manually instead of

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automatically or vice versa is extremely obvious and well known in the art of telephony.

In re Venner, 262 F. 2d 91, 95, 120 USPQ 193, 194 (CCPA 1958); the court held that broadly providing an automatic or mechanical means to replace a manual activity which accomplished the same result is not sufficient over prior art.

Claims 21-22 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1 and 2, respectively.

For claim 17, see verification feature as discussed in Elliott [0034-0035, 0222, 0233, 0235-0237]

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments have been considered and have been found not persuasive.

Applicant argues (Page 8 of the Remarks) that "Claim 1 recites the feature 'assigning to each of the more than one communications carrier is said network a particular port within said one originating gateway, each assigned particular port being different from each other'. Applicant respectfully contends that the prior art does not disclose this feature". The Examiner submits that the Pei prior art addressed most of the limitations of claim 1 with the exception of having the "the gateway comprising more than one port and each port is being different from each other". Thus, the need existed to introduce another prior art that will overcome the deficiency of Pei. Therefore, the

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Examiner submitted Alston which disclosed the use of a gateway that has individual ports assigned to each of a plurality of messaging devices (see col. 10, lines 5-7).

Alston also teaches that each one of those port is unique (see col. 3, lines 17-18). Yet, the Examiner believes that the combination of Pei in view of Alston already addressed the claimed limitation of "assigning to each of the more than one communications carrier is said network a particular port within said one originating gateway, each assigned particular port being different from each other".

Applicant also argues (Page 9 of the Remarks) that "Applicant notes that Alston never states that the second embodiment allocates a separate port on the gateway for each device". First, the Examiner submits that from the cited portion in the above office action Alston clearly states that the gateway has individual ports assigned to each of a plurality of messaging devices. This means that the gateway has more than one port which is individual and separate form the other ports. Second, the claim's language does not specifically recite "a separate port on the gateway for each device "as alleged by the Applicant. It appears that Applicant is reading into the claim's language.

Applicant's also argues (Page 9 of the Remarks) that "In the above embodiment that is most favorable to the Examiner's position, each of the plurality of devices at premises has a different address". The examiner respectfully believes that this argument is irrelevant, since the main reason to introduce Alston was to have a getaway that has a plurality of ports that are unique and different from each other. Thus, any other embodiments that discloses other features and teachings which are not discussed

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nor cited by the Examiner are considered irrelevant to what is being claimed or recited in the claim's language.

Regarding Applicant's argument (Page 10 of the Remarks) for claim 15, the Examiner believes that application server 50 can be considered as the "third party entity remotely located", see Figs. 1-4 where is MAS 50 element is located.

Regarding Applicant's argument (Page 11 of the Remarks) that "Elliott is silent regarding the structure and functionality of conveying different scripts based upon an identifier associated with a call of a calling apparatus". The use of different scripts is old and well known in the art. Again this is considered a design choice of Applicant, since the type of script applied can be chosen based on the need and desire. Using different type of scripts does not rise the invention to the level of patentability.

The Examiner believes that other arguments are already addressed in the above rejection.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

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mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Rasha S AL-Aubaidi/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614

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